



Hazardous Waste Planning Fee - 1995

Ecology Fact Sheet

Publication # 95-410

The purpose of this Fact Sheet is to provide businesses and governmental agencies assessed the 1995 Hazardous Waste Planning Fee with the details on who pays the fee, how the fee is assessed, and who they may contact for additional information.

What is the Hazardous Waste Planning Fee?

The Hazardous Waste Reduction Act requires hazardous waste generators and hazardous substance users to prepare pollution prevention plans for the reduction of hazardous wastes and substances. The Act requires facilities to pay an annual fee to support implementation of the planning requirements. Ecology adopted a fee schedule under Chapter 173-305 WAC.

Where does the money go?

Ecology uses the funds from the planning fee to provide assistance to facilities preparing pollution prevention plans. We help facilities find ways to avoid or reduce hazardous substance use and hazardous waste generation. Many facilities report increased worker safety, reduced compliance and liability costs, and cost savings from reduced chemical use and waste disposal after going through the planning process and implementing their plans.

Have there been any recent changes to this fee program?

In the past, Ecology and the Department of Revenue worked together to collect this fee. Ecology is now solely responsible for it. This change enables us to more efficiently provide service to fee payers and to respond to billing questions.

Who pays the fee?

Ecology collects the planning fee from any facility that generates more than 2,640 pounds of recurrent hazardous waste annually or reports hazardous substance use according to federal SARA Title III, Section 313 requirements. There are limited exemptions for planning and fee requirements. Ecology verifies a facility's status as a fee payer by reviewing the information submitted on the **1993** Form 4, Generator Annual Dangerous Waste Report and/or the **1993** Form R, Toxics Release Inventory Report.

When is the fee due?

Facilities must pay the fee by **July 1, 1995**. We have enclosed a return envelope to help make payment easier. Make sure to enclose the billing statement with your payment. Ecology's address is printed on the billing statement. The address must be visible in the envelope window.

What happens if I pay late?

Ecology can charge interest on the amount of the fee according to RCW 43.17.240.

How is my fee calculated?

Chapter 173-305 WAC outlines the formula used to calculate the planning fee. The formula considers the pounds of hazardous waste generated and reported on the 1993 Form 4 and the pounds of on-site toxic releases, if any, reported on the 1993 Form R.

In 1995, the fee cannot exceed \$11,325 for any individual facility or an interrelated facility preparing a single plan. The total for all facilities cannot exceed \$1,132,562 in 1995. The fee for each individual facility is calculated based upon a statewide rate per pound.

The statewide rate per pound is calculated in two steps:

Step 1: Total pounds of extremely hazardous waste **multiplied by 10**

plus the total pounds of dangerous waste

plus the total pounds of toxic releases

equals the total pounds reported by all facilities

Step 2: Total pounds from Step 1

divided by \$1,132,562

equals the rate per pound

The formula for an individual facility using the statewide rate is:

Total pounds of extremely hazardous waste **multiplied by 10**

plus the total pounds of dangerous waste

plus the total pounds of toxic releases

multiplied by the rate per pound
(.0175 for 1995)

equals the fee due from each individual facility

What are interrelated facilities?

Interrelated facilities are multiple facilities owned or operated by the same person or business. A person with multiple interrelated facilities,

where most processes are similar, may prepare a single plan and pay a single fee. If you think you qualify, call Ecology at (360) 407-6726 to petition for this provision.

Can I change my status as a planner or fee payer?

Yes. Facilities may change their status by earning credits for recycling. Hazardous wastes recycled on- or off-site do not count against the planning threshold of 2,640 pounds and are not used in the fee calculation. If you forgot to provide this information on your 1993 Form 4, and feel the credit may change your status, call us at (360) 407-6733. Facilities must make adjustments for recycling credits before the July 1, 1995 fee due date.

May I appeal the amount of the fee?

Yes. You must call Ecology at (360) 407-6733 before July 1, 1995. We will review the information used to calculate your fee.

Where should I send the payment?

Mail the payment along with the billing notice to the Department of Ecology, P O Box 5128, Lacey, WA 98503-0210. Use the enclosed return envelope and be sure the Ecology address is visible in the envelope window.

Who do I contact if I have more questions?

Call Ecology at (360) 407-6733 with your questions about the planning law, the planning fee or fee calculation.

The Department of Ecology is an equal opportunity agency and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, disability, age, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, disabled veteran's status, Vietnam Era veteran's status or sexual orientation.

If you have special accommodation needs or require this document in alternative format, please contact Dave Dubreuil at (360) 407-6721 (Voice) or (360) 407-6006 (TDD).

